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Extension Service



Review

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"Gung Ho"—work together

H. W. HOCHBAUM, Chairman, U. S. Government Victory Garden Committee

■ The Chinese say "Gung Ho." We say "Work Together." It works in China, and it works here. County agents know that working together is one way of getting a big job done. In the Victory Garden movement, the idea of working together is becoming firmly implanted from one end of the Nation to the other. In the Cleveland metropolitan area, for instance, County Agent Harold S. Ward of Cuyahoga County worked with a good many people in the 1943 program and this year is working with them again to get more gardens, and more productive gardens, to meet the increased food needs in this third year of war. Gardening in this area is headed by the Cuyahoga County Victory Garden Committee.

County agents took such an active role in the Victory Garden program last year, not only in rural areas but in urban areas as well, that it will be well to consider where major emphasis will have to be placed in reaching this year's goal. Minnesota made a survey of Victory Gardens in 1943 and found that in that year more than 99 percent of all farm families in the State had gardens. With local variations, that picture is pretty true of the Nation as a whole. To continue this Minnesota survey: Among village families, it was found that 96 percent had gardens; in small cities, 75 percent; and, in large cities, only 33 percent of families. An intensification of the Victory Garden drive in both small and large cities is needed this year.

In a talk before the recent regional Victory Garden conference in St. Paul, W. H. Alderman, chief of the division of horticulture of the University of Minnesota, said: "City gardens are usually small; and, even though their number is considerably increased, it is not likely that they alone can give us the 25 percent increase in production needed this year . . . the most significant increase in production must come from better gardening on all gardens." He estimated that in 1943 the yields per

square foot of both farm and nonfarm gardens was very low, that from farm gardens being 0.16 of a pound per square foot and from nonfarm gardens, 0.1 of a pound per square foot. To show how productive gardens can be, he estimated that the yield from a well-managed farm garden, based on actual yields of crops at the University Farm, would be 13,000 pounds or 0.43 of a pound per square foot from a garden 0.69 of an acre in size. This yield would be nearly 3 times that of farm gardens throughout this country. For the intensively cultivated small city garden, with low-yielding crops omitted, he stated that the yield per square foot should be much greater than from a larger garden. To back up this state-

ment, he kept accurate records of the 1943 production from a garden of 108 square feet. This garden yielded more than a pound and a half per square foot, or 15 times the average yield from non-farm gardens throughout the Nation. "There was nothing remarkable about this yield from a very small garden," said Professor Alderman.

I have every confidence that if we all work together, we can produce 10 million tons of produce from Victory Gardens this year to add to the Nation's war food larder. The Extension Service, and particularly county agents, can help to get this job done. There is work for all—for garden club leaders, OCD block leaders, newspapers, radio stations, American Women's Voluntary Services, local and State garden committees, and 4-H members and their leaders. Above all, it is a task for the 22 million families who will garden this year.

"Gung Ho!"

On the docket this month

"Grow More in '44" is the spring theme song on the food front. "Grow more in '44" week, being observed April 2 to 8, is focusing public attention on the vital war need of more food to fight for freedom.

National support is offered through radio programs, press releases, suggestions to national advertisers, and contacts with national organizations. Farm production goals, Victory Gardens, and the Crop Corps will be emphasized. Local production activities can get added impetus by tying into the national "Grow more in '44" week.

Plans for recruiting the Crop Corps are being perfected in all parts of the country, with some of the Southern States already launched on their labor-recruitment campaign. A useful aid to county agents is the kit of information material which contains sample fill-in radio scripts, fill-in releases, 15 sample radio station breaks and spot announcements, suggested newspaper advertising copy which can be submitted to local

newspapers, letters to civic clubs, photographic copies of the 4 new posters now in preparation, and suggestions for almost every publicity medium.

A report to the Nation on food production in a series of Farm and Home Hour radio broadcasts gets under way on April 10 when New Jersey will report on the production of poultry, truck crops, and milk. Director Bevan and a committeeman from the AAA will discuss the general feeling of farmers toward the production goals as they have observed it, and a typical New Jersey farm family will present the plans they are making to increase their production to help meet the goals. The series of broadcasts will continue every Monday noon for 11 weeks, giving reports from different parts of the country.

April 13 marks the birthday of Thomas Jefferson. 4-H Clubs are honoring Jefferson this month in many ways—on radio programs, by studying his life and contribution to agriculture, or by planting a tree in his honor.

Income tax schools gave timely service

■ Missouri's farm income tax schools, held jointly by the Agricultural Extension Service and the Internal Revenue Service last year, contributed much to the solution of a difficult wartime problem. Extension specialists, county agents, and Internal Revenue Service deputies, in 615 meetings, trained 24,251 farmers and leaders, who in turn assisted fully half the farmers of the State in filing out their tax returns.

Robert E. Hannegan, Internal Revenue collector of the eastern district of Missouri last year, said that the schools of instruction not only gave assistance in filing returns but also rendered more fundamental service in teaching farmers how to keep records. As a result, farmers are now supporting income-tax returns with authentic evidence to a greater degree than ever before, thereby reducing the unit cost of filing and auditing farm returns and collecting the taxes.

"I can envisage continued progress by these methods," he said, "and I believe that the heavy burden of assisting farmers in preparing income tax returns will become a relatively light task when farmers generally learn to keep records and assume their own responsibility for the returns."

Missouri's success in the income tax schools is but another proof of the effectiveness of the neighborhood-leader system. Schools of instruction in wartime projects generally are attended by representatives of more than half of the 9,000 to 11,000 recognized neighborhoods of the State.

The increased number of persons who were required to file returns and the local-leader system naturally fitted into the picture for the income tax schools. Arrangements were made with the Internal Revenue Service for advance notice of definite schedules around which county agents could arrange schools for their leaders. The county agents then publicized the dates and visits of deputies in their counties and reported good attendance of the responsible leaders.

As another assistance to the Internal Revenue Service and to Missouri farmers, the Extension Service issued a farm record book prepared especially for use by farmers in assembling material for filing an income tax return. Through keeping such a record, specific information on income, purchases, expenses, investments, depreciation, and deductions was available for reference purposes

when the time came to compile the income tax return.

The farm record book provides on left-hand pages a reproduction of the Internal Revenue Service income tax return forms, section by section. On the opposite pages of each section a corresponding form for the individual farmer's record is provided, which is used to supply the required totals for the income tax section. The record book was prepared for the specific purpose of simplifying the preparation of an income tax return on a "cash receipts and disbursement" basis, and its usefulness is largely limited to that objective.

Neighborhood leaders—10,000 strong—locate seed stocks

■ More than 10,000 men neighborhood leaders have helped materially in an intensive campaign for Minnesota farmers to plant seed oats of two improved varieties this spring.

First, at the request of their county agents, they made a survey to locate seed of Vicland and Tama oats. Tests made by the Minnesota Experiment Station and substations proved that these two new varieties of oats are far superior to any variety now commonly grown on Minnesota farms. During 1943 a limited number of farmers grew Vicland and Tama oats, the former being an introduction by the Wisconsin Experiment Station and the latter an Iowa variety, but both of identical parentage. The yield of these varieties averaged approximately 20 bushels an acre more than that of those commonly grown in the State.

Director Miller says that because increased production of feed crops is all-important during 1944, and as the acreage in crop production cannot be further expanded, it is highly essential that maximum yields be obtained from each acre; especially, oats, the acreage will be further restricted this year as some oats acreage will be diverted to corn, flax, and soybeans.

Approximately 11 million bushels of seed oats are required to plant the Minnesota oat crop in 1944. Of the estimated 11 million bushels of Vicland oats produced in the State in 1943, between a

Whereas the interest of the Internal Revenue Service was in collection and enforcement, the Extension Service's interest in the tax meetings was in helping the farmer to get a better understanding of business activities involved in his operations. From an educational standpoint the Extension Service would have been interested in a farmer judging his own operations through the keeping of records, even if no tax had been involved. So the tax schools served the purposes of aiding the Internal Revenue Service, the Extension Service, and the farmer; and thus helped to bring a closer understanding and better cooperation among all three.

Also, by means of the tax schools and leadership system, the Extension Service protected county agents from being "buried alive," figuratively, with the chore of assisting individual farmers in compiling their tax returns.

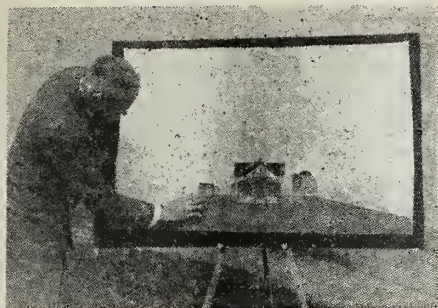
third and a half of this amount will be available for seed. To make the most effective use of seed stocks available and to insure that they would be saved for seed, county agents sent a letter to more than 10,000 men neighborhood leaders, asking them to make a neighborhood survey of Vicland and Tama seed oats available and to report the surplus to their county agents. County agents, in turn, made this information available to farmers requesting seed of these varieties.

During the last of January, Director P. E. Miller met with all county agents in eight district conferences. County agents reported that the neighborhood leaders had done such a thorough job that every bushel of available seed would be planted by farmers in the county where the seed was reported or in neighboring counties. There was still a lack of available seed to supply the demand, and agronomists got busy to locate more seed in both Iowa and Wisconsin.

Although not every acre of oats will be planted to these varieties, there will be a substantial portion of the oats acreage changed over to these varieties this year. This change will result in a step up in production to a marked degree, and it will be done on less acreage than has been used for oats during the past 2 years.

Director Miller says that he and the agents believe that the intensive campaign conducted through the neighborhood leaders and through other publicity channels is responsible for this change.

The flannelgraph



■ A device successfully employed in extension teaching in Wisconsin—the flannelgraph—is being used in agricultural missionary work among the Navahos in Arizona.

A former home demonstration agent in Wisconsin, Mrs. Willard Gray, nee Doris Clark, found the flannelgraph effective in her Bible lessons at Moody Bible Institute. Recently married, the former extension worker and her husband are doing agricultural missionary work among the Navahos in the school and hospital station at Ganado, Ariz.

The base of the flannelgraph is a large board about 3½ feet by 5 feet, covered with flannel and set up on an easel. When this flannel-covered board is slightly tilted back, other pieces of flannel in various shapes can be made to stick to it, and by the manipulation of the demonstrator illustrate right and wrong ways of doing whatever line of work may be considered. These pieces can be

moved around and serve in a very effective way the purposes of the demonstration.

This is well illustrated by the home-grounds flannelgraph which has been used by L. G. Holmes, G. W. Longnecker, and other extension landscape workers at the University of Wisconsin.

A large light-colored cloth with a horizon drawn upon it is used as a basis for a picture. Then strips of flannel upon which have been painted a house, a barn, and other farm buildings are placed in position. Using trees of different kinds, shapes, and colors, fences, sidewalks, and shrubs, the house on the bare lot is soon transformed into a well-landscaped home. Flower beds and hedges can be added to frame the house.

This before-and-after method of demonstration is valuable in showing audiences why one arrangement may be better than another. The completed picture tells the story.

An idea that pays dividends

■ The home demonstration agent in Jasper County, who is one of the smallest agents on the Mississippi force, has gained 5 pounds; and she is "able to live with myself," as the result of starting a new program which is really paying dividends. The war had created problems which had the home agent "down but never out."

Main trouble was getting women to attend council and leader-training meetings. The women were vitally interested in the program offered by Vela McKinley, home demonstration agent; but the county seat is located on the extreme side of the county, and the town, Bay Springs, is not the natural trading location for many sections of the county.

Miss McKinley decided that if the women could not come to her, because of gasoline and tire rationing and labor shortages, then she would go to them.

Instead of having the leaders from over the county come to Bay Springs, the leaders and the home agent decided to divide the county into four districts according to trading areas and school districts. Originally, the greatest travel distance was 35 miles for some of the members to attend leaders' or council members' meetings. Now 10 miles is the greatest travel distance for any one member to attend meetings.

Although the new program has been in operation only a short time, the number of home demonstration clubs has in-

creased from 15 to 22; and Miss McKinley expects to have 28 clubs by spring. The membership has increased from 302 to 444 members, and an additional 100 members are expected soon.

Here is the kind of attendance which was usual before the new plan was put into operation. Only 2 to 12 leaders out of 90 used to attend the leaders' meeting which represented from 1 to 4 clubs out of a total of 15 clubs. A machine-cleaning clinic attracted the record attendance of 12 members.

Attendance Increased

Now about 40 members from 14 clubs out of 22 groups attend. Most of the women come on the school bus, and the members are proud of the new program and take more interest in club work.

Before the new plan was started, council and leaders' meetings were held on separate days. Now the leader-training meetings are held in the morning when subject-matter discussions are featured, and the council program is conducted in the afternoon of the same day.

Definite programs are outlined at the district meetings so the home demonstration clubs will have well-planned programs to carry on, even though it may be impossible for the home demonstration agent to attend a particular club meeting for 2 months. At least one-half of all club meetings are held by local leaders without the home agent being present.

District Meetings Held Monthly

The district meetings are held on the first Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of each month at Rose Hill, Montrose, Heidelberg, and Stringer. Miss McKinley tries to have an extension specialist from State College attend as many of these district meetings as possible.

Council leaders analyzed the situation as to the number of neighborhoods needing organizations, after an analysis of the present membership was given by the home agent. In the four districts, the women leaders listed 18 neighborhoods that needed an organization. For the 18 groups, 31 women agreed to make the contacts and set up a temporary organization for the home agent to meet at a later date. These leaders were responsible for organizing 5 of the new clubs.

The leader training for the 4-H Club program is being carried out on the same plan and coordinated with the home demonstration club program.

Jewell Garland, State rural organization and recreation specialist, attended three of the organization meetings and assisted with the organization and planning of the programs.

Madam cow tester appears

■ One of the war jobs that women and girls have stepped into naturally is that of the cow tester. As modern circuit riders, they drive their "jalopies" from farm to farm, testing the milk and keeping accurate records on the farmers' cows, as well as making friends with the farm families. Trained in a short course of about 2 weeks, they work for the members of the dairy herd-improvement associations, an important link in the chain of increased production for an essential war commodity—milk.

Defense industry and the armed forces early drained off many of the cow testers. As early as 1941, the first New York girl tester was trained at Cornell and took a job as supervisor of a dairy herd-improvement association. Now in New York there are 96 full-time supervisors, and 20 of them are women. At one time, there were 22 girl testers in the State, but the report is that "marriage, moving out of the community, and moving to other work make replacements of women testers as necessary as those for men."

Chautauqua County, which had the first girl tester, had all four associations in the county run by women at one time; but now only half of them are women.

Although many farmers at first expressed some reluctance about employing women for the job, many have come to find that the girls do a good job, winter or summer. They get the job done.

Regular Training Schools Held

Training schools have been regularly scheduled for testers at Cornell University in alternate months. Some students hear about it from county agents or associations, and many have come in response to news items sent out by the State office. Sometimes the women students outnumber the men and boys, and sometimes only a few register.

Often the new woman tester takes her husband's place, as did Mrs. Leo Crittenden of Springville, N. Y., who finished dairy testing school on the same day her husband was called into the Army. She received her initiation into the service by helping her husband for the last 3 months he worked. She tested 19 herds of 441 cows each month.

The first Wisconsin woman tester took over her husband's job when he marched off to war. She wasted no time in hiring another farm girl, Rosemary Janacek, to help and took over the testing for the Richland County Dairy Herd-Improvement Association. These two girls test 1,700 cows on 88 farms. The testers go to 58 farms, take samples and make their

tests, and for the remaining 30 farms, the owners bring the samples to the testers for measurement.

Pennsylvania has 15 women testers. Most of these girls have a farm background, and many have had some vocational agricultural training or have been members of 4-H dairy clubs.

Conservative farmers of the Keystone State will tell you that these girls are doing as good work as the men did in pre-war days. They keep their outfits cleaner and write more neatly. The girls themselves feel that the experience is valuable to them. For example, two girls who plan to study nursing think the experience they are getting in making adjustments to the different homes they visit is excellent for a prospective nurse.

Gertrude Curley, a Pennsylvania tester, likes it but finds she has very little time left on her hands after taking care of her association and filling out the 718 records for her herd-analysis work. Another tester, Ada Mary Symington, has brought her association to a much higher standard than it has had for many years. One association reports that their tester, Ellen G. Sheldon, small in stature, may have trouble keeping the milk bucket from dragging; but, nevertheless, she has completed a year's work in as satisfactory a manner as any of her neighboring testers of the opposite sex. Another quiet but efficient young lady, Hazel Kutz, handles one of Pennsylvania's large associations with entire satisfaction to the membership.

C. R. Gearhart, extension dairy specialist, believes that the girls deserve a great deal of credit for the work they are doing. The job was not considered suitable for women and girls in prewar days, but now these 15 girls are doing just as good a job as any 15 men placed at the same time.

New Hampshire dairy herd-improvement associations are served 100 percent by women testers. Seven of these girls made the trip to Boston to appear on a Women's Land Army radio program last September. Dressed alike in the Women's Land Army uniform, they were pictured in Boston papers and drew considerable attention to this phase of war work carried on by women.

Three Michigan women are now on the cow-testing job. The first woman supervisor went to work in the spring of 1942, but the Michigan climate did not agree with her, so she accepted a position with a California cow-testing association and has been doing good work there. Since then, seven other women have worked as cow testers in the State, but some have

had to return home to help with the farming. None left because she was incompetent.

These women have had a background of progressive dairy farm experience and some agriculture training in high school, college, and in 4-H Clubs. Dairy farmers like them because they are neat and accurate with their work. Sometimes the association is without a tester for a few months and is very glad to welcome the girl tester as the South Eaton Dairy Herd Improvement Association in Michigan did Jean Bostedor, a former 4-H girl.

Courses of training are given in most States where the dairy industry is important, and there is a big demand for women with farm experience in this field. They are doing a good job through the rigorous winters of New England, Michigan, and Wisconsin; they keep their cars rolling on all kinds of roads and in all kinds of weather. They know dairy farming and get along well with the farmer because their careful records enable him to do a better job of production. Many are members of the Women's Land Army which holds an important sector on the food front.

A new record book

A "Ten-Year Capital and Inventory Record" for use by farmers in computing those tricky problems of depreciation and capital gains and losses for Federal income-tax reports has recently been published. This book is designed for use with record forms used only for recording day-to-day receipts and expenditures.

It is so organized as to permit wide latitude in the classification of capital and inventory items. Provision has been made for space in an organized way for recording all depreciable items and capital transactions. This information is becoming increasingly valuable for income-tax reporting and measuring financial progress. After the record is set up, 2 or 3 hours devoted to it each year will keep it up to date. It is ideal for conducting inventory and credit statement demonstrations by neighborhood and other local leaders, as well as for use by farmers not now keeping complete farm records. The forms were prepared in collaboration with members of the Bureau of Internal Revenue to insure their adaptability for tax purposes.

Copies may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., at 15 cents a copy in lots of less than 100. A 25-percent discount is allowed for orders of 100 or more. Payment must accompany order.

Market in a potting shed

VERA COX, Marketing Organizer of Britain's National Federation of Women's Institutes

■ A market held in a potting shed, or in a garage or a barn! Maybe that sounds queer; but it is, nevertheless, one of the features of wartime life in rural Britain today. And for this novel form of trading, Britain's Women's Institutes are responsible.

Women's Institutes are societies of rural dwellers who band together to encourage social amenities and to improve the conditions of village life. When they were first formed, in World War I, one of their main objects was to increase the food supplies of the country by teaching their members to make the best use of their holdings and gardens.

It was natural, therefore, that during the years of depression following the Armistice when the produce from holdings, allotments, and gardens was being wasted through lack of marketing facilities, that Women's Institute members should demand their own organization through which they could market the produce they had learned to grow and preserve.

Market Plan Set Up

At an annual general meeting of 1932, a resolution was passed asking the National Federation of Women's Institutes to set up W. I. markets. A temporary grant toward expenses of the new marketing department was received from the Carnegie United Kingdom Trustees, and a full-time marketing organizer was appointed.

Until 1939 the markets were held mainly in market or residential towns, the produce being supplied from the surrounding villages. The character of the stalls varied from the larger markets with a turn-over of £2,000 a year to the small trestle-table type of stall with a turn-over of about £200.

Every kind of home produce was sold, home-made brawns, cakes, cream, butter, eggs, poultry, vegetables, flowers, and all kinds of preserves. In order to keep the "trading for private profit" side of the markets separate from the educational, the N. F. W. I. advised the larger markets to register under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act.

Shares were issued to the producers who elected their own committees of management, and the markets became businesslike and practical examples of cooperative rural enterprise. In all cases, the value of the produce sold, less

a commission, usually a penny to the shilling, went back to the producers, the commission being kept by the Committee of Management to pay the running expenses of the market. The annual meeting of the market producers decided how any profit was to be allocated. Emphasis was laid on the need for education in the right kind of produce to grow for markets, and on the necessity for proper grading and packing; and the market controller was given authority by her committee to refuse produce not up to the required standard.

Since 1939, the markets have increased to more than 200 but have changed somewhat in character. Rationing has limited their sales mainly to vegetables and fruit. It is no longer possible to sell dairy produce or jam; poultry is limited, and only markets in existence before the outbreak of the war are allowed an allocation of fat and sugar for the manufacture of cakes and cooked foods; transport is also greatly restricted. Yet, individual market turn-overs have increased, sometimes as much as £500 in a year. Horsham W. I. Market Ltd. in Surrey, in southern England, provides a good example. There in 1941 the turn-over was £2,903, and last year it was £3,179. Essex, on the East Coast, with a County Marketing Society of 14 affiliated markets, has reached a monthly turn-over of £1,300. Kidderminster, a market started since the war, had a turn-over in 1941 of £1,317, the last balance sheet showing £2,391.

Makes Parish Self-supporting

The duty of country people at the present time is to make their parish as self-supporting as possible and never to buy food in a town if they can produce it themselves. Thus there has arrived a smaller and simpler development of the peacetime market, the village stall, organized often by the Women's Institutes but essentially a village concern. Often it is run in cooperation with the village produce association, a committee of men and women whose job it is to plan a supply of food for their village during the lean winter and early spring months.

The success of these market stalls depends on their being as simple as possible.

Stalls are growing up in the most unlikely places—in villages where one would think that everybody had a garden and could grow everything needed for their

own use—until one remembers how the present-day village has grown. It may now include evacuees, servicemen's wives, the crews of searchlight units, Land Army hostels, and sometimes small factories. Many village schools are now serving a hot dinner to the children. All are extra people who should be supplied from large and small village gardens.

The produce is brought in by hand, on bicycles, in wheelbarrows, in babies' prams, and sometimes by pony cart. The question of automobile transport seldom arises, for autos are rare in Britain now. The markets are held in many different places—in the village or W. I. hall, in someone's garage or potting shed, in the porch of a house, in a barn, or, in fine weather, on trestle tables on the roadside or village green.

Conform to Government Regulations

The village stalls must conform to Ministry of Food regulations, as must the retail stores, and it is not always easy to get up-to-date information on price regulations into the remote villages. County council staffs and larger W. I. markets are helping by passing on price information as quickly as possible.

Without the W. I., most of these stalls would not have come into being, but having once started, they are very much a village concern. It is common to find the village schoolmaster as chairman; we have a former director of education and the institute president jointly in charge of one village stall.

The village policeman can be seen proudly bringing in his cauliflowers, old-age pensioners telling the younger members of the village the proper way to market their produce. School children are constantly helping, and indeed all kinds of people are working together in this enthusiastically practical form of cooperative work.

Kodachrome slides

Kodachrome slides, 2 by 2 inches, have been used with effect in reporting 4-H Club work in two New York counties. Wesley Smith, club agent in Yates County, prepared a brief page-and-a-half summary for the board of supervisors and presented it with slides showing the activities throughout Yates County. C. G. Small, assistant county agent in Wayne County, used the same method of presentation to the county committeemen. The pictures were taken in all parts of the county so every committeeman would recognize one or more of the pictures as coming from his locality, usually on his own farm. Mr. Small received many favorable comments based on this presentation.

Children enjoy meetings, too

MRS. ELSA B. BATE, Specialist, Child Development and Family Relationships, Wisconsin

■ How many times we hear mothers of young children say: "I'd like to go to the meeting, but I haven't anyone with whom to leave the children." It is a very real problem in many homes, especially these days when it is almost impossible to get extra help. However, there are very few problems that cannot be solved through ingenuity and planning.

Believing this, an experiment was tried in Waukesha County, Wis. Meetings were being planned in this county for the mothers, who were in the habit of bringing their children to the local pre-school clinics. The purpose of the meetings was to discuss such child-guidance questions as "Developing and Improving Eating Habits," "Discipline," and the like, with me. It was thought that more mothers would attend if they could bring their children, so several agencies cooperated to make the meetings a success. Ione Ripley, the county nurse, arranged for the places of meeting and invited the mothers to attend. Winifred Eastwood, home demonstration agent, consulted 4-H girls and selected four, who were interested in young children, to supervise their play. The place of meeting at Muskego was a rural school building in the basement of which were two adjoining rooms. In one, chairs were arranged in a semicircle for the mothers. In the other, a large, clean, rag rug was placed on the floor for the children to sit on.

4-H Girls on the Job

Play materials of the less active, less noisy types were assembled and brought to the place of meeting an hour ahead of time. The 4-H girls came early, too, giving me an opportunity to discuss with them their responsibilities for the afternoon. Each girl was given a copy of the Wisconsin leaflet, "Care of Children at Meetings," and the parts which it was thought would be most helpful to the girls were emphasized, including the ways in which they could expect the children to use the materials and the difficulties the girls might expect to encounter with the children during the afternoon. Suggestions were made for dealing with various difficulties that might arise.

Fourteen mothers attended the Muskego meeting, along with 17 children of preschool age. As the mothers and children came, the youngsters were welcomed by the 4-H girls. They were in-

troduced informally, both to the girls and to each other, and their attention was drawn to the play materials. When some children were extremely shy, the mothers stayed in the room for awhile until the children were interested in playing with something. However, it was not long until all the children were busy playing or working with various materials, and the mothers were free to enjoy their meeting, while Miss Ripley kept an eye on both the children and the girls supervising them.

In addition to enabling mothers to attend meetings, this kind of project bears

fruit in other ways. Just seeing their children together with other children of the same age is valuable to mothers. From the standpoint of the youngsters themselves, the experience is worth while. Many children, especially rural children, live too far apart for the children of "younger than school" age to play together often. After the age of 2½ or 3 years, youngsters need companions of their own age in order to learn to give and take, with consideration both for their own rights and those of other people. Arranging for children to accompany their mothers to meetings and play together under careful supervision is one way of providing this experience. It was a valuable experience from the standpoint of the 4-H girls, too; and as time goes on it may be a way of interesting them in working with children and studying them more thoughtfully.

Pack gifts for service men

MRS. CAROLINE BOOGHER, Home Demonstration Agent, Hillsborough County, Fla.

■ This year the stores in the city were unable to get tin containers for packing candy and cookies for the boys overseas at Christmas time. By the latter part of September we began to get many calls for help in packing boxes, which could be sealed so that they would arrive in good condition for the boys in service.

The service started in a small way with no publicity; but those who obtained help told others, and soon we had a large group. After we had been working about 2 weeks, a newspaper reporter stopped in the office one day and, seeing about 10 busy women packing candy and cookies into cans, asked what they were doing. She immediately wanted the recipes for fudge and cookies that were good for sending overseas. We had the recipes, and I told her about cooking the fudge to a temperature of 240° F. to assure having it in good condition when it reached the boys, and also gave her our recipe for cookies that keep well.

The newspaper reporter wrote an account of our work for the paper, and then we really went to work. People from every walk in life came to the office to pack gifts for their boys. Working at the same table would be one woman wearing huge diamonds on her hands and a woman with red, rough, work-worn hands; but each one had the same thoughts for her boy in mind—a Christmas gift made with her own hands. If one needed an extra cookie or piece of candy to fill her can, the one next to her

always insisted on filling the can. It made me realize that the women of America do have something in common and will stick together when there is need.

Both mothers and wives packed their gifts in our office. A girl with a small baby came one day and, with tears in her eyes, said that her husband had written her that he knew he could not be with her at Christmas but that if he could only have a dish of her chop suey, he could stay on the job of fighting the Japs. She made the chop suey, and we canned it for her. You have never seen anyone happier than she was when she knew he would have her chop suey for Christmas.

After the 15th of October, we thought packing gifts for overseas was over but, a few days later, a woman called and asked if we would pack some things for her. When we told her the dead line for sending gifts had passed, she asked us if we had forgotten we had a Navy. We had to start all over again so that the boys in our Navy would not be forgotten.

We packed 600 cans here in the office, and two of the home demonstration women opened their canning centers, canning 200 cans—making a total of 800 cans of food for the boys overseas.

■ 4-H Club boys and girls of Madison County, Ala., sold \$140,710 worth of war bonds at a 4-H war bond sale. One bale of cotton donated brought \$50,000 in bonds, another \$20,000, and a bull, \$10,000.

The agricultural Jefferson recognized

M. L. WILSON, Director of Extension Work

■ More than a year ago, when plans for the Jefferson Bicentennial were discussed and exercises were being planned for the dedication of the Jefferson Memorial as the south point in the Great Cross on the Washington Mall, considerable thought was being given to recognizing Thomas Jefferson's notable contributions to agriculture. Similar recognition had been given to George Washington in the bicentenary staged for him in 1932 and to Abraham Lincoln in the Lincoln Centenary celebration.

In the case of Jefferson, Americans realized that we were at war on the date the bicentenary commenced officially, April 13, 1943. At the same time, every true believer in democracy recognized that the war in which we are engaged involved the continuation of the very kind of democracy for which Thomas Jefferson stood.

Congress Lays the Groundwork

Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard and Members of Congress, under the leadership of Senator Harry Flood Byrd of Virginia, proposed that, in addition to recognizing Jefferson as a statesman and patriot, as symbolized in the Jefferson Memorial, appropriate steps should be taken to honor him for the great contributions he made to American agriculture. A bill introduced by Senator Byrd in the Senate and by Representative Howard Worth Smith of Virginia in the House was passed as a joint resolution of Congress and approved December 3, 1943. The bill provided for appointment of a National Agricultural Jefferson Bicentenary Committee. Under the direction of this committee, of which Secretary Wickard is chairman and which includes five Members of the United States Senate and five Members of the House of Representatives, plans are now under way for launching Nation-wide recognition of Jefferson, farmer and agriculturist. Though the official life of the committee comes to an end on April 13 of this year, the activities are to be of the kind that need not and should not terminate on any given calendar day.

As believers in rural democracy, all agriculturally minded persons should be interested in the permanent establishment of our own agricultural traditions because of the important part in building the kind of America—and the kind of world—we are fighting for. All farmers and agriculturists of the Western

Hemisphere should have considerable pride in the contributions of Thomas Jefferson. He said many times that he was more interested in farming than in politics. He believed that through science and education agriculture could become the noblest following of man.

Thomas Jefferson was one of the richest personalities in the whole history of civilization. Like Leonardo da Vinci, he knew a great deal about the knowledge and learning accumulated up to the time he lived. He was well balanced in the many phases of life. Students of personality say that one rich in it has a wide scope of interest. Jefferson had such a personality. He grasped the true possibilities which science and enlightenment can bring to mankind. His idea of democracy was always coupled with the idea of science and education. Science could be used to lighten the load of man, or to enslave him. Through education that would be available to the high and the lowly, that would emphasize ethics and principles as well as knowledge in the purely physical sciences, Jefferson envisioned freedom, progress, and an advanced civilization.

An Early Extension Worker

Jefferson's interest in science was spurred on by his devotion to farming. He saw great possibilities in agricultural science if this could be available to the people who did the actual working of the land, and he also relied on such people for the perpetuation of democracy. The more we study Jefferson, the more we appreciate that he truly had extension blood in his veins. Extension people, as leaders in the rural educational field which follows a typically Jeffersonian pattern, can well afford to contribute freely, insofar as wartime circumstances permit, toward making Jefferson stand out as a symbol of the culture known as rural democracy.

An important subcommittee of the committee authorized by Congress is one on "activities in the colleges of agriculture, the agricultural experiment stations, and the agricultural extension services." The recommendations of this subcommittee include a memorial ceremony at Monticello on April 13; similar ceremonies at the colleges sometime during the year; planting of a Liberty Tree in honor of Jefferson's contributions to agricultural science on college campuses or experiment station grounds; appointment of Jefferson committees at each

State agricultural college; and cooperation on the State level with farm organizations in promoting programs recognizing the agricultural Jefferson.

It is my hope that extension people everywhere will take an active part in the recognition of the Agricultural Jefferson being sponsored by the National Agricultural Jefferson Bicentenary Committee.

Singing on the home front

Sulda 4-H Clubs of Mauston, Wis., are sponsoring a project to make vocal group singing of patriotic and inspiring songs a feature of all community gatherings in the county.

Mrs. Ed Mauer, leader of the Sulda Club of 21 members, reports that a quartette of high-school-age members has been singing "Songs for the Home Front" at the club meetings. They have also been asked to sing before various community groups such as community clubs and church organizations and are ready to teach others part-singing.

Community fairs

The 9 Schuyler County, N. Y., 4-H community fairs and achievement nights were successful, especially from the standpoint of community spirit and parent participation. Club members made 1,115 exhibits, and 1,057 persons attended. These figures represent a considerable increase over last year's corresponding events, when 845 exhibits were made at the county fair, and 537 persons attended achievement night programs. Several parents and leaders stated that they thought these community fairs and achievement nights should be continued after the war because they enabled more parents to learn more about club work. It is apparent that communities are looking for worth-while things to do together, and it seems that community activities sponsored by the Extension Service will not only strengthen communities, but will also strengthen the Service itself in the years to come.—*R. P. Blatchley, Schuyler County, N. Y., club agent.*

■ Eight members of the Aubrey 4-H Club, Richland County, Wis., do folk dancing regularly every 2 weeks at the 4-H meetings. They have such a good time that they often dance for an hour and a half. They are now teaching other groups in the county how to dance the figures. Four members of the same family furnish the music with a piano, accordion, violin, and guitar. Folk dancing has spread to surrounding counties and is fast becoming a popular recreation with young and old.



Extension agents join fighting forces

News from extension workers who have gone from the farm front to the fighting front is gleaned from letters they have sent to former coworkers. The roll call continues from last month the list of extension workers serving in the armed forces and lists additional names received since the first list was made up.

A look at Scotland

At last I have succeeded in landing overseas. It's what I've wanted ever since I was first inducted but never seemed able to achieve. The people over here are very friendly. I visited Glasgow a couple of week ends ago on a pass. Also saw the remains of Crooston Castle where Mary, Queen of Scots, is alleged to have been held prisoner. Hope to see Loch Lomond, too. The Ayreshire cattle are plentiful and really look very well-bred. The traditional crops of oats here beat anything I've ever seen in the States.—*Les Nichols, 4-H Club agent, on leave from Montgomery County, N. Y.*

Food from home

The weather hasn't been too hot yet. The old country is awfully dry, but we have a wonderful breeze in the late afternoons and nights.

The dry weather (no rain in more than 2 months) has about dried up all plant life except trees and a few crops in small irrigated areas.

All the grain crop has been harvested; the grape crop will soon be ready for wine; and I suppose that will about end crops, except the few vegetables, until fall.

One of the surprising things is how the cattle manage to keep fat on apparently dead grass.

I can't mention locations, so won't be able to say much about my whereabouts. The old cities over here are interesting but, of course, are not as usual, due to present circumstances. Some of them took quite a "shellacking," and to look at them reminds one that Sherman wasn't too far wrong on his description of war. Also some of these cities are

quite different from what I imagined from the ancient history I was exposed to in high school.

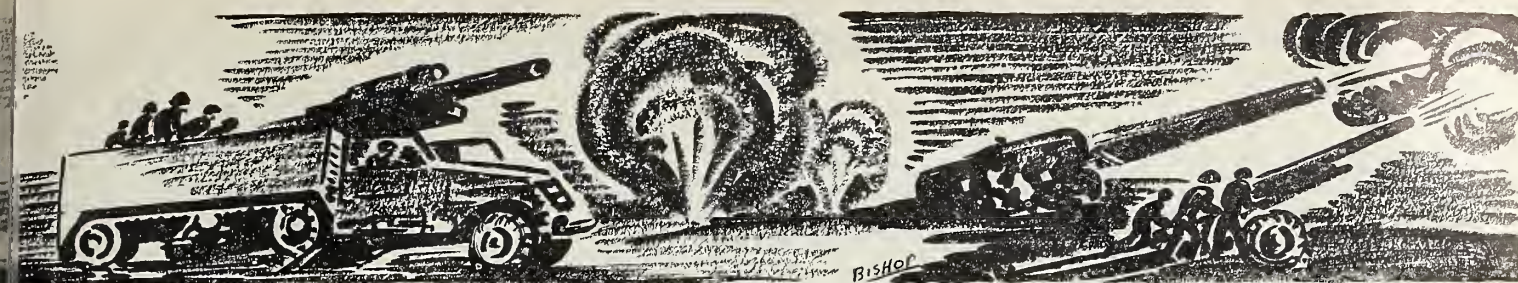
We are still eating practically all American processed foods. The only exceptions are occasional vegetables such as onions, tomatoes, and carrots. A few nights ago I got in late for supper and went to the kitchen for a can of tomatoes. To my surprise, the tomatoes were packed by a canning company in Ruby, S. C., and this, by the way, seemed to make them taste better.—*Maj. J. C. McComb, North Africa, formerly on South Carolina extension staff.*

From North Africa

This is quite a country over here. One can see almost everything in the farming line—all the way from threshing wheat with a combine on down to the natives tramping it out with their feet. It looks as if a lot of the United States' ideas on windbreaks, shelterbelts, irrigation, etc., came from here. They do quite a little irrigating, and the fields are protected from the wind by trees.

I see that Morton County has another Cowley County man as an agent. I should like to try it again. I wouldn't take anything for my trip over here, but now I am ready to go home and settle down.—*Lt. Wilbur Crowley who was county agent in Morton County, Kans., at the time of the first lottery following the first registration and whose number was 158, the very first one drawn in the lottery.*

■ Even though we cannot be with you and the farm people, I believe I speak the sentiments of all of us in the service when I say: "You and your work are in our minds and hearts" . . . I have tried to enter into the spirit of the training.



to like their method of instruction and cooperation. The association with these fellows has meant much to me—something like going to college again, with somewhat of a serious accent . . . I'm glad that I can look forward to working with the Extension Service, as well as looking backward at my pleasant experience with the farm people and their problems . . .”—*Lt. John T. Whitfield*, formerly assistant county agent, Tarrant County, Texas.

The Roll Call

MISSISSIPPI

(Continued from last month)

M. P. Lewis (inducted and later discharged from service).
H. F. McCrory.
Lloyd McGehee.
Joe D. Miller.
T. M. Montgomery, Jr.
V. P. Moore.
H. B. Parker.
Gerald Purvis.
Mrs. Judson Purvis, American Red Cross.
L. T. Peeples.
Hattie Ratcliff.
Herbert Ray.
Luther W. Revere (inducted and later discharged from service).
George Russell.
C. O. Weeks.
Shed H. Weeks.
N. G. Wiseman.

NEVADA

Corp. Fred Batchelor, clerk in State Extension office, Army.
Sgt. Thomas B. Glazebrook, extension forester, Army.
Sgt. John A. Patti, extension financial clerk, Army.

NEW MEXICO

J. W. Donaldson, Luna County agent, Army. Fought in the Philippines and is now a prisoner of war in Japan.
Rey Gonzales, Taos County agent, Army. Fought in the Philippines but no word has been received from him.
Paul McGuire, associate editor.

NEW YORK

(Continued from last month)

Dawn Rochow, district home demonstration agent, WAFS.
Capt. Robert G. Smith, 4-H Club agent, Orleans County, Army.
Lt. H. W. Welch, assistant agent, Ontario County, Army.
Pvt. R. E. Wingert, assistant agent, Steuben County.
W. T. Winne, botany specialist, Army Air Force.
Corp. G. A. Woodruff, assistant agent, Delaware County, Army.
Pauline Young, associate 4-H Club agent, Cortland County, WAC.

OREGON

Maj. W. S. Averill, Benton County agent, Army.
Leeds C. Bailey, Malheur County assistant agent, Coast Guard.
2d Lt. Marjorie Ellsworth, Union County home demonstration agent, WAC
Capt. Harry J. Endicott, Malheur County assistant agent, Army.
2d Lt. Mary Holthouse, secretary, agricultural economics, WAC.
1st Lt. W. J. Jendrzewski, Klamath County assistant agent, Army.
Capt. R. C. Kuehner, Lane County club agent, Army.
Capt. Harry L. Riches, Marion County agent, Army.
2d Lt. Robert H. Sterling, assistant specialist in land use, Army.

RHODE ISLAND

Ensign Richard H. Bohning, assistant county agent, southern Rhode Island. Navy.

PENNSYLVANIA

Capt. James H. Book, assistant county agent, Army.
Capt. Eugene G. Hamill, county agent, A. M. G.
Corp. Kenneth Hood, extension economist, Army.
Capt. J. F. Keim, assistant State 4-H Club leader, A. M. G.
Lt. R. W. Kerns, extension rural sociologist, Marines.

Maj. Harvey W. Rankin, extension pathologist, Army.

Lt. Edna A. Stephany, county extension representative, Army.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Lt. W. L. Abernathy, Jr.
Lt. E. C. Abrams, Army.
L. M. Asbill.
Roscoe C. Bacote.
Capt. E. B. Baskin, Army.
Lt. M. A. Bouknight, Army.
Lt. T. O. Bowen.
Maj. F. W. Cannon, Army.
Lt. D. H. Caughman, Army.
Maj. L. O. Clayton, Army.
Capt. Thomas M. Clyburn, Army.
Capt. J. L. Cochran, Army.
Lt. R. A. Cole.
Lt. F. W. Corley, Army.
Maj. R. H. Crouch, Army.
F. M. Fleming.
Lt. B. J. Funderburk.
Ensign C. P. Guess, Navy.
Lt. F. K. Hinnant.
Ensign Winston Holliday, Navy.
Lt. J. M. Jeter.
Ensign E. M. Johnson, Navy.
Capt. D. K. Josey, Army.
Lt. J. C. King, Army.
Lt. R. H. Lemmon, Army.
H. P. Lynn, 2/c, Navy.
Maj. W. J. Martin, Army.
Capt. J. W. Matthews, Army.
Capt. J. C. McComb, Army.
Lt. M. C. McKenzie, Army.
W. R. McKinney.
Capt. G. C. Meares, Army.
Lt. J. D. Miller.
Capt. Ruby Pearson, WAC.
Lt. W. H. Pressly, Army.
Maj. B. E. G. Prichard, Army.
Lt. Dratford Richardson, Army.
L. W. Riley, Specialist 2/c, Navy.
Capt. J. T. Rogers, Army.
Capt. D. Austin Shelley, Army.
Lt. J. C. Shelley.
Capt. T. A. Stallworth, Army.
Capt. G. H. Stewart, Army.
Lt. D. C. Sturgis.
Lt. M. H. Sutherland, Army.
Lt. J. W. Talbert, Army.
Lt. S. B. Walker.
Lt. S. A. Williams.
Lt. J. C. Willis.
Lt. J. R. Wood, Army.

JIT for West Virginia apple growers



A practical demonstration shows the right and wrong ways to instruct green workers in using a ladder safely.

■ Thirty-two West Virginia apple growers and orchard foremen postponed pruning long enough in February to attend two 2-day job instruction training sessions at the West Virginia experiment substation near Kearneysville where hospitable Ed Gould is in charge. Eighteen of the 32 organized and put on sample training for the criticisms and suggestions of the others. Three men postponed for a day a scheduled hog killing in order to give their demonstrations.

Ben Creech, Extension's farm labor supervisor in West Virginia, organized the JIT program because of the difficulty experienced last year in training green employees to handle apples with the care and respect due \$5 fruit. W. N. McClung and Neil Bolton, county agents in the neighboring counties of Berkeley and Jefferson, spread the news among the orchardists. R. H. Copeland, farm labor assistant in both counties, arranged the details and made the excellent coffee to go with the home-packed lunches at noontime.

Among the orchard jobs that were

broken down for the practice demonstrations were the use of pruning shears, pruning, setting ladders, picking apples, the use of the picking bucket, dumping apples, loading and stacking apple boxes, facing apples, turning and shaking apples, and making and labeling boxes. Ben Creech, the West Virginia farm labor supervisor, and K. F. Warner from the Washington extension office, who led the JIT discussions are both animal husbandmen. They made perfect material for testing the efficiency of correct instruction as used by the apple growers.

Job simplification was presented at two evening meetings by Dan Braum of the U. S. Department of Agriculture personnel office. Time and motion economy is Dan's hobby; and his rope, scoop shovel, and sturdy thigh muscles were used to emphasize the fact that there often is an easier way to do a job.

The Kearneysville meetings are to be followed by a series of JIT sessions for West Virginia extension personnel.

One-day stands

Charlie Sayre, county agent in Kingsbury County, S. Dak., has a system of carrying on extension work in wartime. Encountering the common difficulties of getting farmers out to meetings and dwindling office calls owing to well-known causes, Charlie has set up temporary stands in far corners of the county, something on the order of traveling photographers, dentists, eye or foot doctors who advertise they will be in a named hotel in a town on a certain date for 1 day only.

One of Charlie's best extension communities is Badger, 25 miles northeast of De Smet, the county seat. Not many folk are driving to De Smet now from Badger. A few days before January 11, the first day he tried it out, Charlie sent cards to the farmers around Badger that he would be in Chris Larson's trucking office in Badger all day Tuesday, January 11.

The results were gratifying. By actual count, Charlie did business with 27 farmers that day. Many more than that number were in the little trucking office during the day just for a visit with Charlie, and at times the little office was not large enough to accommodate the visitors.

Here are a few of the major extension jobs accomplished on that 1 day. Charlie talked the new oat varieties—Tama, Boone, Vikota, and Vicland; and as a result, 3,500 bushels of certified Vicland

will be brought into Badger and seeded this spring. That is enough to plant 1,750 acres. If the added yield is 20 bushels an acre, Badger will have 35,000 extra bushels of oats.

Charlie also advised farmers on livestock feeding and management problems, helped with their farm record books and income taxes, gave sympathy and guidance on hog-marketing problems, got organization steps for a 4-H Club started, organized a fox hunt to stop sheep and poultry losses from these predators, and then also got approval for shotgun shells for use in the hunt. He also demonstrated to one farmer how to dynamite crows.

Conserving the feed supply

Eight hundred Wayne County, N. C., farmers put on a rat-killing campaign sponsored by the Agricultural Workers' Council through its neighborhood-leader system, County Agent C. S. Mintz reports.

The rural neighborhood leaders visited farms throughout the county, and 2,750 pounds of mixed bait were distributed. The success of the campaign showed the ability of the rural leaders to organize their communities in cooperative effort.

L. C. Whitehead, rodent-control specialist from State College, worked with County Agent Mintz in obtaining the poisoned bait and in carrying out the campaign.

"At this time we need all the feed possible for our livestock, and we are sure that this rat-killing campaign will save many bushels of corn and other feedstuffs which would have been eaten by the rats," Agent Mintz said.

Pictures used more

Pictures have been used even more in Henry County, Mo., during these times of shortage of films and other photographic material. The local papers here publish many of my pictures, paying for the cuts. The two papers in Clinton go to practically every home in the county, so that has been an excellent way of doing wartime extension work. Soon we shall publish a large-page booklet with about 30 or 40 of our 4-H Club pictures and mail it to all our rural homes.—J. Robert Hall, county agricultural agent, Henry County, Mo.

■ Rural women in Routt County, Colo., have been learning how to give emergency treatment to wounds, snake bites, and frostbite, with the cooperation of Jean Knowles, county home demonstration agent, and the assistance of leaders of the home demonstration clubs.

Girls study child care

ESTHER R. HART, Home Demonstration Agent, Venango County, Pa.

■ Six girls in Rouseville, Venango County, Pa., organized a 4-H child-care club last June. The number of members soon increased to 23, the girls ranging in ages from 10 to 16 years. Rouseville, a community of about 700, lies in the oil region; and oil, of course, is its chief industry.

Child care was a new project in the State 4-H Club program last year, and Rouseville had the first child-care club in Venango County. The purpose of the child-care project is to help girls acquire an understanding of children so that they really enjoy caring for them.

Just as the 4-H's stand for the four—head, heart, hands, and health—so this project aimed toward giving an understanding of the child's needs and daily routine, principles in planning meals based on the "nutritional yardstick," selection of toy equipment for children of different ages, children's clothing, and helping the child to achieve independence.

Girls Were Enthusiastic

The girls joined the club voluntarily and were enthusiastic as they started in their new venture. Members worked individually in caring for their younger brothers and sisters or for neighbor children.

At club meetings, held every other week, the girls related some of their various experiences in caring for children. These naturally presented some problems in behavior, eating, whether or not a child should dress and undress himself, when he should be put to bed, how to get acquainted with a young child, and why a 15-month-old child and his 3½-year-old sister wouldn't like the same toys.

A mother of a child was invited to one meeting of the club to tell what she expected of a girl whom she would hire to take care of her child. She emphasized such points as being clean and neat in appearance; free of colds or other illnesses; feeling a sense of responsibility; not having the girl's friends call while she is working; and realizing that a child's sense of danger and the need for the proper caution is undeveloped and that, consequently, he needs constant supervision.

At another meeting, one of the mothers in the community demonstrated the proper method of giving a baby his daily bath.

The topic of one meeting was "toys." The girls made toys, using materials which they already had on hand at home. These included nests of tin cans painted in gay colors, and balls made from water-soaked newspapers. Finger painting was popular both with the 4-H Club girls and their young clientele. Deciding what toy to make involved a study of the relationship between the child's age and the toy he would like.

An exhibit of children's clothing, which showed good selection of color and material, and designs which encourage self-help as well as simplicity and roominess, was the foundation for another meeting. The girls made 14 garments. The younger 4-H members chose easily made ones, such as self-help bib and play aprons with two large pockets to hold all sorts of trinkets. Two girls used discarded felt hats and bits of bright yarn to make slippers to put in boxes for British children.

At another meeting, four of the girls, under the supervision of the home demonstration agent, prepared a meal for a 3-year-old child. All sorts of questions as how to get a child to eat certain foods and the like were stimulated among the club members.

Of particular interest to the club was the meeting on "Picture Books and Stories for Children." Marguerite Little, child-care specialist of the Pennsylvania State College Agricultural Extension Service, showed books for the 18-month-old child on up to the age where imaginative stories and pictures might be used. Pointers in story telling were illustrated in the tale, "Angus and the Cat."

Spent 722 Hours in Child Care

All in all, do you wonder what was accomplished in this 4-H Club? The 15 girls reporting at the final meeting before they started back to school revealed that they had spent 722 hours in caring for children. The children they cared for ranged in age from 7 months to 8 years. Each girl cared for from 1 to 10 children. They planned 2 schedules and 77 meals. They made 14 garments, 17 toys, and 4 scrapbooks. They prepared 25 meals for children, gave 23 baths, and 2 girls arranged storage for children's toys and clothing.

And why should these girls be taking care of children? One said that she cared for a little boy while his mother pitched hay in the field. Some club

members cared for younger brothers and sisters while their mothers did the washing and other routine home jobs. Other girls took care of children while the mothers were working at the control center, shopping, or working away from home.

Although this is not solving the problem of what to do with children of working mothers in the large war-industry areas, it has helped to solve problems of child care in a small community. While these 4-H girls were learning how to care for our citizens of tomorrow, they were also gaining a better understanding of themselves and how they could become better American girls. They are giving a patriotic service to their country in helping to protect little children from wartime pressures. The girls were so enthusiastic about their work that they continued their meetings through the winter months.

4-H leader honored

Among the winners of the award for the five "outstanding citizens" of the Niagara Frontier is Noah Henry, Indian 4-H leader of the Tuscarora Reservation in Niagara County, N. Y. He is the first Indian to be given this annual award.

Nursing classes in Georgia

Eight Red Cross community home-nursing classes were conducted in Elbert County, Ga., in the fall of 1943, with the American Red Cross and home demonstration clubs cooperating. The course took 20 hours, and enrollment ranged from 15 to 26 in the various communities. Nine of the 20 hours in each class were taught by the home demonstration agent or a home economics teacher, whereas the more technical material was taught by a professional nurse. This instruction in home nursing, touching both personal and community health problems, meets a distinct need; and its value will be reflected in the homes, schools, and communities of the county.

■ Old seed loans are being repaid now, reports Deputy Governor C. W. Warburton of the Farm Credit Administration. As director of the Extension Service, Dr. Warburton had charge of the seed loans for many years; and county extension agents in areas of farm distress had an active part in helping farmers to get these loans. The only security was a lien on the crop for which the loan was made. In 1942, collections of principal and interest on seed loans made in 1936 and earlier years, including the 1934-35 drought feed loans, were slightly more than 10 million dollars. Collections on these loans in 1943 were considerably in excess of 12 million dollars.

VFV'S answer the call to farms

■ Studies made of the VFV programs in Cumberland County, Maine, Berks County, Pa., and Terrebonne Parish, La., show that most of the farmers were well pleased with the farm work these young people did.

In Terrebonne Parish, La., about a thousand nonfarm youth—400 boys and 600 girls—worked an average of 3 weeks helping the farmers harvest their crops. They saved the bean and Irish potato crops, and were very proud of their work. Eighty-eight percent considered their farm work as war service. Their patriotic impulses to help harvest war crops had been considerably stimulated by the recruiting talks made by County Agent M. J. Andrepont at various schools. He stressed the importance of food in winning the war and the need for boys and girls to help produce it. Most of the farmers said the youth did as good work or better than the usual hired help. The response of the farmers in this study was unusually high.

In Cumberland County, Maine, about 1,200 boys and girls were recruited in and around Portland for day work on the farms. Shortage of labor and high wages in industry made it difficult to get older youth.

The children were permitted to set the tempo of their work. However, they were encouraged to pick 100 pounds of beans a day and thereby become a member of the Century Club. They were paid 1½ cents a pound for picking beans. Some picked 200 pounds a day and earned \$3. A supervisor weighed the beans as the young folks brought them in and gave them credit to the next quarter pound. The VFV liked this because they watched the scales and the entry in the record and found that they were never "short-changed."

The younger children were well supervised by teachers from the school. The supervisors were selected with excellent judgment and received \$5 a day from the growers.

A training program in the schools is being contemplated for this year. This should increase the working efficiency of the boys and girls and the educational value they derive from farming.

In Berks County, Pa., the VFV's were older. In several of the high schools of the county the youth workers had been enrolled in regular agricultural courses. The teachers of agriculture had made adaptation of their courses, recognizing the need of these nonfarm boys and girls to prepare for wartime food production.

They were transported to the farms by the day, and did nearly as great a variety of general farm jobs as VFV's

EXTENSION RESEARCH

Studying Our Job of Extension Teaching

who lived and worked on the farm for the summer season. Their jobs included not only harvesting vegetables but also, harvesting small grains, picking fruit, haying, dairying, handling a team, running a tractor, and caring for poultry.

The VFV program in Berks County was an outgrowth of the Emergency Agricultural Project carried on in the county in 1942. The success of the 1943 program was due in large measure to the cooperation of the farmers and local people working through the county farm labor committee.

More details on the VFV evaluation studies are given in the mimeographed circular **NONFARM YOUTH WORK ON FARMS. The studies of the 1943 Victory Farm Volunteers Program were planned and directed by Dr. Fred P. Frutchey, of the Federal Extension Service, and Dr. Frank W. Lathrop, of the U. S. Office of Education.**

How have neighborhood leaders helped in the war?

Information from 43 States, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico gives the high lights of neighborhood-leader activities during the second year of the war. This is the second study of neighborhood leaders made on a Nation-wide basis to determine the status of the work.

Thirty-six percent of the programs carried on pertained to the use and conservation of resources, 24 percent to food and feed production and preservation; 11, to inflation and war financing; 10, to salvage; 6, to health and morale; 4, to nutrition; and 9 percent to other programs.

Programs pertaining to food production, Victory gardens, salvage, and War bonds, were reported most frequently as being best in coverage of the number of families receiving the information. These programs were likewise the best in response of the number of families taking the recommended action. "Share the meat" and inflation were the poorest programs in both coverage and response.

Belief on the part of the families that the program is important is, by far, the leading factor in getting good response.

More than one-half of the factors reported as being responsible for getting the best response pertained to the nature of the program. Thirteen percent of the factors pertained to the training of the neighborhood leaders, and an additional 8 percent related otherwise to the leaders, making a total of 21 percent. Ten percent concerned organization, planning, and timeliness; and 9 percent, publicity.

The factors reported as being responsible for poor response followed about the same pattern as did those responsible for good response. More than one-half of the reasons given pertained to the nature of the programs, 13 percent to organization and planning; 11, to the neighborhood leaders; 11, to the literature used; and 6, to poor publicity.

The number of programs carried on by neighborhood leaders from the beginning of the work to August 1943 ranged from 2 in Arizona to 41 in Utah. The median number is 12. Nearly two-thirds of all programs reported were carried on in at least half of the counties with neighborhood leaders.

For the country as a whole, the number of counties with neighborhood leaders increased during the year from 93 percent in August 1942 to 96 percent in August 1943. Twenty-seven States reported no change in the number of counties with neighborhood leaders, 14 reported a gain, and 4 reported a loss.

Only 38 States, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico reported on the number of neighborhood leaders for both years. They show a gain of 17 percent in the number of leaders, increasing the total in the 38 States, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico from 416,433 in August 1942 to 487,830 in August 1943. Twenty-nine of these States reported a gain, 6 a loss, and 5 no change. Men leaders outnumbered women leaders in both 1942 and 1943 by about 15 percent. The number of youth leaders almost doubled during the year, a total of 17,874 being reported for August 1943. Nineteen States reported youth leaders.

A community committee to guide the work of the neighborhood leaders was reported by 7 out of 10 of the States. One-third of the States reporting community committees indicated that they have such committees in some, but not all, of the counties.

Checking as we go

Informal checking, spot studies, and workshop conferences help county extension workers find the strong and weak points of their neighborhood-leader work.

Informal checking is particularly useful in obtaining information to "true-

up" the work, and to check our "guestimates" on its success or failure. To supplement informal checking and to provide a systematic check on personal judgment in servicing the neighborhood leaders, county extension workers have found it helpful to conduct special studies from time to time in cooperation with State and Federal extension workers. Workshop conferences of extension

workers have been conducted in several States and have proved successful in clarifying and attacking problems.

Ten important points for county agents to check in appraising and servicing their neighborhood leaders are suggested in *EVALUATING YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP*, by Dr. Fred P. Frutchey of the Federal Extension Service. *Ext. Serv. Cir. 414, December 1943.*

Have you read?

Exhibits. A pamphlet primarily for health and welfare workers but containing much useful information on building simple exhibits. 32 pp. H. E. Kleinschmidt and others. National Publicity Council, 130 East Twenty-second Street, New York, N. Y., 1943

Dr. Kleinschmidt says: "Visual aids help us to educate in the present tense." He tells how to plan an exhibit, all the way through to the end. Dr. Gebhard tells how to use an exhibit. Miss Tolleris gives descriptions of successful exhibits that are rich in ideas. Miss McKinney contributes several pages of useful hints, particularly about adapting materials at hand. While prepared for the welfare worker, extensioners who use exhibits and window displays will find much that is useful.—*Don Bennett.*

Annual Reports. A pamphlet designed to improve the interest and readability of reports. 24 pp. Edited by Mary Swain Routzahn. National Publicity Council, 130 East Twenty-second Street, New York, N. Y.

This pamphlet analyzes six annual reports. They were selected because "they really reported. They told in interesting narrative form 'what we did last year' rather than 'what we always do.' They were not expensive to produce." The editor emphasizes putting interest over cold statistics. She shows where the human angle brings the figures to life. The cases studied are at all levels—county, city, State, district, and regional.—*Don Bennett.*

A Cooperative Economy. A study of democratic movements. Benson Y. Landis. 197 pp. Harper & Bros., New York and London, 1943.

Relatively few people realize or sense the extent to which cooperative effort (working together) is present in a democratic economy. To most people, cooperative effort has to do only with cooperative buying and selling. The sense of working together is not generally associated with broad democratic processes

of government and its various activities. In this book, the author presents a splendid thumbnail description of cooperative effort in the broad field of economic relations in cooperatives, public and governmental institutions, controls, and regulations, as well as international relations.

The book is a well-written, understandable descriptive enumeration of cooperative effort, and serves well as an introduction to the broader application of cooperative effort for the thoughtful, socially minded person. The appended list of references and bibliography will be useful in further explanation of this field.

The approach is largely from the consumer's angle, using the argument that everyone is a consumer. It perhaps overlooks the fact that everyone is also a producer, unless he is a parasite.

A cooperative economy is suggested as a possible solution for our present problems. Individuals would work together voluntarily in associations and more or less involuntarily, but intelligently, in governmental activities in the interest of general welfare. The profit motive is discounted as a desirable incentive, and the broad social attitude is suggested. Such a social philosophy is to be developed by sound educational effort.

Consumer cooperation is discussed as cooperative purchasing and finance. Producer cooperation is treated under the titles of labor unions, cooperative marketing, and productive homesteads. Possible cooperation among professional groups and independent businesses is suggested. Public cooperation involves the citizen's relations to regulations, public ownership, public credit, taxation, and the national social minimum in standards of living. The question of "in what direction?" encourages thinking in terms of international cooperative duties and rights of individuals, problems beyond State control, and finally a summary of the aims and objectives of the cooperative economy.

Finally, a set of thought-provoking questions on the topics covered in each

chapter is prepared for use in informed discussion. This book lends itself well to use as a basis for consideration by informed discussion groups as an effective means of achieving the desired understanding and appreciation of cooperative effort on a broad basis.—*D. C. Dvoracek, senior extension economist, Federal Extension Service.*

Letters to service men

Service men and women from Wood County, Wis., will soon be receiving letters from the 4-H Club boys and girls of their home county. At the county's achievement exercises held recently 4-H Club pencils bearing the club pledge were given to members.

H. R. Lathrope, county agent, suggested that the members write to some former 4-H Club member who is now in the service, or to friends and relatives in the service. Then, after the letter is written, he suggested including the pencil in the letter and sending both to the service man or woman. The pencil, which can be sent in an ordinary envelope, is green and white, with the club pledge and the name of the county 4-H Club printed on it.

For healthy work stock

Fifty-nine counties in North Carolina have held horse and mule clinics this winter to condition work stock for essential work on the farm under wartime conditions. Neighboring farmers cooperate in bringing their work stock to the clinic because the greater the number of animals treated the less is the cost per head.

■ Household-equipment clinics to train leaders to assist farm families in repairing and conserving household equipment were held in eight Georgia towns in February by the State Extension Service.

Six leaders from each of 48 counties, and home demonstration agents from certain other counties were given information at these clinics to demonstrate to other farm families the care and repair of simple electrical appliances; plumbing fixtures; oil, wood, and electric stoves; refrigerators; and other household equipment. Willie Vie Dowdy, home improvement specialist; G. I. Johnson, agricultural engineer; and H. S. Glenn, rural electrification specialist, conducted the clinics.

■ G. L. PONDER, past president of the Oneida 4-H Club in Clay County, Ky., now overseas in the armed forces, sent \$5 as an award to the member of his club who had the best project and record for the year.

AMONG OURSELVES

■ GLADYS M. MARTIN, formerly county home demonstration agent in Eastland County, Tex., was selected to fill the newly created position of home dairy specialist. Working through the 220 county home demonstration agents in the State, Miss Martin assists farm and ranch families in producing good-quality milk in sufficient quantity to meet home needs as prescribed by the Texas food standard. Her work includes the fundamental principles of feeding and management of cows, care and use of milk products and equipment, and also the manufacture of dairy products for home use. It is estimated that about 90 percent of Texas farms and ranches have dairy cows, but only about 50 percent of them have adequate supplies of milk. Development of the home milk supply is an important objective in extension educational work this year in view of the increase in the State and national milk production goals in 1944.

A native of Nebraska, Miss Martin has been in the employ of the Texas Extension Service since June 1929, serving successively as home demonstration agent in Tom Green, Presidio-Culberson-Ward, Coryell, and Jones Counties before assignment in Eastland County in November 1941. She is a graduate of the University of Nebraska with the B. S. degree in home economics.

■ M. H. COE, State 4-H Club leader of Kansas for the past 18 years, has been granted a 6 months' leave of absence to accept a position as director of the farm division of the National Safety Council. In his new work, Mr. Coe will direct and carry out a program of accident prevention among farm families. His headquarters will be in Chicago.

A graduate of the University of Minnesota, Mr. Coe came to Kansas in 1922 as an extension specialist in livestock. In 1925, he was named acting State 4-H Club leader and the following year became State club leader.

During Mr. Coe's leave of absence, J. Harold Johnson will act as State club leader. Mr. Johnson has been in club work in Kansas since 1927.

■ W. H. CONWAY of the Federal extension staff is being honored by his fellow workers at a luncheon on April 5,

the anniversary of his 35 years of service in the Department of Agriculture. He came into the Department as a clerk in the Bureau of Plant Industry in 1909 and began his extension career in the Southern extension office of the States Relations Service in 1915. Since that time his responsibilities have steadily increased until at the present time he is chief of the Division of Business Administration of the Federal Extension Service. Mr. Conway is known both in Washington and in the field for cooperation and friendliness in all his dealings with his associates. His constructive outlook is always helpful to his coworkers. His friends everywhere wish him many more years of successful service.

■ DIRECTOR WILSON was featured in the March 18 issue of USDA on the first page. Under the title "M. L. Wilson, Social Engineer," the article called attention to the fact that 1944 marked the thirtieth anniversary of the Extension Service and continued "At its head is one of the Nation's foremost proponents of agricultural democracy . . . who has had perhaps as much to do with the basic planning and direction of departmental programs and American agriculture as any other person alive today.

"In 1914, M. L. Wilson was, as he is in 1944, a leading exponent of the philosophy that agricultural science should serve as a tool for building higher living standards among rural people. After getting practical experience as a tenant farmer in Nebraska and as a homesteader in Montana, Wilson began his extension career in 1914, as county extension agent in the grass-roots county of Custer, Mont. Today, more than ever, Wilson sees agricultural technology as a combination of science and education to provide the means whereby those who labor and live on our farms can free themselves from much unnecessary toil and drudgery.

"As student and follower of both Lincoln and Jefferson, as farmer and teacher, with great confidence in the power and influence of education as the mold of freedom and progress, M. L. Wilson continues as 'social engineer' and champion of democratic rural life."

Wisconsin towns on the job

Here's one Wisconsin town that knows just where it stands on manpower.

Sun Prairie, with a population of just over 1,600, has completed a house-to-house canvass, through the efforts of block leaders, which shows every labor reserve in the community.

The block leaders worked under the direction of Mrs. Alice Dyne Feuling, retired national home-economics leader,

who is now living in Sun Prairie. They covered the whole town and found 250 recruits who were willing to work either full time, part time, during vacations, or after hours this summer.

Each volunteer specified the jobs he could and would do. Most of them asked for work in canning factories—an important war job.

The survey emphasized something that is troubling Wisconsin farmers—the shortage of people who can be called in for farm work. Only a handful of the 250 registrants signified availability to help on the farm. They were placed immediately.

The Kewaunee Junior Chamber of Commerce organized a local recruiting set-up.

Jaycees, with, they admit, a great deal of help from other service groups, will handle the job of mobilizing labor in Kewaunee to help hard-pressed farmers of the county. The young businessmen's committee is getting in touch with rotarians, foresters, members of churchmen's groups, firemen, labor unions, industries, and members of the senior chamber of commerce, reports County Club Agent V. W. Peroutky.

Committeemen include, among others, a garage man, the district attorney, a furniture manufacturer, and an electrician.

Jaycees are using a registration card upon which volunteer city workers show what farm machines they operate, what farm work they prefer, and what hours they are available.

The volunteers are encouraged to work in groups.

Besides the county-seat committee, four other trade-center farm labor offices will operate in Kewaunee County, Peroutky reports. One is being set up in the southern part of the county and others are to be in Luxemburg, Casco, and Algoma. John Paska, principal at the Casco high school, is heading the county-wide program.

On the Calender

American Country Life Conference, Chicago, Ill., April 11-13.

American Dry Milk Institute, Inc., Chicago, Ill., April 19-20.

American Management Association, Production Division, Chicago, Ill., April 19-20.

Child Health Day, May 1.

Midwest Safety Conference, Chicago, Ill., May 2-4.

4-H Club Radio Program, Farm and Home Hour, Blue Network, May 6.

Family Life Week, May 7-14.

National Fire Protection Association, Philadelphia, Pa., May 8-11.

Farmers and businessmen build a post-war livestock industry

CARY J. RICHARDSON, Editorial Assistant, Louisiana Extension Service

■ The Businessmen's Better Sire Club of Alexandria, La., in the last few months has raised more than \$10,000 to help buy purebred bulls for farmers. The businessmen insist that there is nothing philanthropic or "good-neighborish" about their project—they regard it as a longtime investment, and on that basis they have sold it to the townspeople.

The principal goal of the Better Sire Club is to replace every scrub bull or boar with a high-class purebred by 1945. If this goal is reached, the members believe, it will put the livestock industry in the parish 25 years ahead. A well-developed livestock industry could easily add \$2,000,000 to the annual cash income of the farmers and stockmen of Rapides Parish. It is easy to imagine what that \$2,000,000 would mean to the merchants, the doctors, the lawyers, and the insurance agents of Alexandria!

Alexandria is a boom town now, surrounded by Army camps, with every hotel full and the lines in front of the town's picture shows stretching halfway round the block. Thousands of soldiers swarm the streets, and the local merchants can sell more of practically everything they can get.

But it was not always so. And a group of far-sighted businessmen are looking ahead to the time when the war is over and their town settles back into normalcy.

Alexandria, with a pre-war population of 27,000, is still a small enough city to be close to the soil. Its citizens realize that any permanent prosperity must be built upon the foundations of a stable agricultural system. And so they propose to cement more closely the already existing bonds between the merchants of Alexandria and the farmers and cattle raisers of the surrounding areas in Rapides Parish.

When the war is over, and the soldiers have gone back home, most of the frame barracks are torn down, and the last householder has given up her couch in the living room to return to her own inner-spring mattress, what then for Alexandria? It'll be a much more peaceful place to live, but old-timers shake their heads and predict that the town will be as dead as the proverbial doornail.

In the middle of the wartime hustle and bustle, one man had been very quietly working on his own post-war plan for Rapides Parish. He was Ben W. Baker, assistant county agent, doing 4-H

Club work, and he believed ardently that the best thing the farmers in that section of the State could do to insure a lasting improvement in their condition was to improve the quality of their livestock.

With the eradication of the cattle fever tick in the late thirties, the way had been opened for the development of a real livestock industry in central Louisiana. Mr. Baker had immediately organized a 4-H baby-beef project, and the club boys and girls had accomplished remarkable results.

Grown out and fattened almost altogether on home-grown rations of corn, cob, and shuck ground together, oats, cottonseed meal, milk, and grass or hay, the Rapides Parish calves had taken top honors at five State baby-beef calf shows in succession.

Following the organization of the 4-H baby-beef project, 105 registered bulls, 320 baby beef calves, and 300 purebred females, nearly all of the Hereford breed, had been placed in the hands of 4-H livestock club members. Each year more and more of the baby beef calves have been home-grown, whereas none were home-grown at the beginning of this project.

The success achieved by the 4-H livestock club members gave ample demonstration of the fact that Rapides Parish was well adapted to the raising of fine livestock. The enthusiasm of the boys and girls had made the farmers of the parish "better-livestock minded," and the stage was all set for a tremendously stepped-up livestock program.

As club agent, Mr. Baker had been concentrating his efforts on the 4-H livestock club boys and girls; but he realized that if the program could be expanded to include all the farmers, it would be much more effective and would reach a successful conclusion much more rapidly. He was encouraged, therefore, when a group of businessmen called upon him and offered their cooperation.

Bill Cotton, head of the largest baking company in this section of Louisiana, was one of the businessmen most interested, and he decided to get things started right away. He called together 25 of Alexandria's most prominent citizens—bankers, merchants, doctors, and lawyers. He reminded them that their future depended in large measure on the future of Rapides Parish as a whole,

and that Rapides Parish was essentially an agricultural parish. He suggested that every dollar they invested now in the long-range improvement of livestock would pay big dividends in the future. He hinted that there was plenty of loose change floating around which could well be invested in something solid and substantial, like bulls!

Ben Baker took up where Bill Cotton left off. He first presented his 5-year, six-point livestock program:

1. To place good purebred beef cattle, dairy cattle, and hogs with each 4-H livestock club member in order to demonstrate that it pays to raise good livestock and to care for it properly.

2. To encourage the eradication of every scrub or grade bull and boar in Rapides Parish, replacing them with high-class purebreds.

3. To organize sire circles or exchanges throughout the parish in order to prevent inbreeding, and to promote economy in maintaining good sires.

4. To establish one or more purebred herds of beef cattle, dairy cattle, and hogs in each ward of the parish to be used as the source of breeding animals for distribution in that ward, in order to economize on transportation from breeder to buyer.

5. To establish a good pasture or improve the present pasture on all farms of the parish.

6. To grow on the farms practically all the feed needed for the livestock.

Two goals were set: First, to double the income of every cotton farmer in Rapides Parish by raising a fat yearling to sell for every bale of cotton produced; and, second, to replace all scrub sires with purebreds by 1945.

That very day, these 25 businessmen organized a better-sire club and adopted a plan of procedure. For young bulls costing \$150 or less, the farmer pays one-third of the cost in cash when he gets the animal and the other two-thirds in equal payments, without interest, 1 and 2 years from the date of purchase. For bulls costing more than \$150, the buyer pays one-fourth the cost of the animal in cash and the other three-fourths in three equal payments, without interest, 1, 2, and 3 years from the date of purchase. Thirty bulls already have been placed in the parish.

Ten thousand dollars was agreed upon as the working capital which would insure the success of the plan. Charter members each agreed to contribute \$100, and they invited scores of other businessmen at the same membership rate. Some firms contributed much more than the \$100 they were asked for, whereas a great many interested individuals contributed amounts from \$10 to \$50. More than \$10,000 was raised.

The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

MILKWEED FLOSS IS NEEDED for such uses as life vests and aviators' suits. 4-H Clubs can do a vital war service by helping to collect the pods which will be bought by the War Hemp Industries, Inc. If the needs of the armed forces are met this year, every bag of pods that it is possible to get must be collected wherever milkweed grows. Last year, County Agent L. R. Arnold in Ottawa County, Mich., reported 893 bushel bags of pods collected. The program will be set up in 21 States this year.

FROM A CANADIAN READER, R. M. Putnam, Director, Alberta Extension Service, comes an account of a successful hog project, carried on in cooperation with the Dominion Department of Agriculture. At some country shipping point in the province where the quality of hogs is not considered as good as it might be, a carload of hogs are tattooed and shipped to a packing plant. While the carload is passing through the packing plant, about 10 representative carcasses are selected, and after they have been cured into Wiltshire sides, they are returned to the shipping point where a Wiltshire Bacon Show is conducted with specialists discussing the factors which influence quality. "This is really a result demonstration to show the farmers the product which is made from the hogs grown on their particular farms. The shows are well attended. The production of hogs is the foremost wartime activity among Alberta farmers, and production has been increased about a million and a half in the last 4 years."

REPORT ON RETIREMENT by a committee of the honorary extension fraternity, Epsilon Sigma Phi, showed that 35 States and territories have some system of retirement for extension workers. Four more States are in the process of perfecting plans for retirement. Georgia lacks only the ratification of a constitutional amendment this year to make its retirement system effective in 1945. Colorado and North Carolina permit extension workers who have joined the armed forces to keep up their payments, thereby maintaining their status in the system. Health and accident insurance, or some form of group insurance, is available to extension workers in 24 States.

THE 8-POINT DAIRY PROGRAM is explained to Georgia dairymen in a new how-to-do-it folder by Extension Dairy-

man Frank W. Fitch who is working with all agencies and organizations interested in improving quantity and quality of milk produced.

Reports from State after State indicate wholehearted support of the 8-point program. At a short course attended by 100 dairy fieldmen in Kentucky, the 8 points were presented and each fieldman assigned to assist 1 or 2 county agents in his territory to help boost milk production. Each month, 5,000 copies of "Timely Tips" are sent to dairy project leaders.

Missouri extension dairymen since late fall have held meetings at key points in 38 counties to help county agents and local leaders push the 8-point production program.

AMONG THE 40 WINNERS in the third annual science talent search, who recently visited Washington, were three 4-H Club members. When the final awards were made at a banquet in Washington's Hotel Statler, one of them, Amber Charles Davidson of Fort Bridger, Uinta County, Wyo., stepped forward to receive top honors, a 4 years' scholarship of \$2,400 to pursue further his scientific studies. Two scholarships are awarded to a boy and a girl each year. Another 4-H representative, Mary Ruth Bond from Chenango County, N. Y., won the

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

L. L. WILSON, Director
F. L. BRIGHAM, Assistant Director

\$400 scholarship and was also named as alternate to the top girl winner. 4-H Clubs can be proud of these two representatives.

ONE HUNDRED SERVICE CLUBS in New Jersey have heard about the food program from speakers from the experiment station and extension staff. Dr. Martin, dean of the college and director of the experiment station, the heads of a number of college departments, the director of extension, and a number of extension specialists have taken part. "This service was begun about Christmas time and has seemed to arouse considerable interest," writes Director Bevan of New Jersey.

4-H ACTIVITIES are varied in Massachusetts. The Clover Leaf 4-H Hostess Club of Buzzards Bay raised \$310.45 for the infantile paralysis fund. The Handy Homemakers of Middleton collected about 50 books for the Merchant Marines. Stoughton 4-H Clubs helped to make red heart-shaped bags to be filled with candy for the veterans' hospitals for Valentine Day. The fifth-year knitting club of Westwood is doing British war relief knitting.

INTERESTING FIGURES from Wayne County, N. Y., via Merle Cunningham, the club agent, who says that a total of 35,000 tons of food was produced by 4-H Club members, or enough to feed Wayne County's 3,000 soldiers for 10 years. These same boys and girls worked for 37,723 hours on farms, and this is equal to 51 years of 12 hours a day. They also invested more than \$35,000 in bonds and stamps and collected 174 tons of salvage. How's that for a record!

RECRUITMENT OF COLLEGE GIRLS for farm work is getting under way. Placement officers from New England colleges met with Women's Land Army supervisors in early February to formulate plans. Last year, units of women workers from Smith College, Vassar, Massachusetts State, and other colleges developed skillful, reliable farm workers who proved satisfactory. Several institutions arranged for a Women's Land Army day in March when the WLA supervisor was on hand to talk with and advise the girls who were interested.

NATIONAL NEGRO HEALTH WEEK, April 2-9, will be observed for the thirtieth time. The special objective is the health of the children in the home, school, and community. The observance is sponsored by the Public Health Service, and many Negro extension agents find it a good time to focus attention on their health program.